

Message Text

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63

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 OES-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 HEW-06 IO-13 /066 W

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R 201140Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7835

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 12241

E.19. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP IN

SUBJECT: FAMILY PLANNING SEMINAR IN CALCUTTA

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY MADRAS FROM CALCUTTA
AUG 19 REPEATED:

QUOTE

CALCUTTA 2028

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, IN

SUBJ: FAMILY PLANNING SEMINAR IN CALCUTTA

1. UNDER SLOGAN, "HUM DO HAMARA DO"--("WE ARE TWO; WE
WILL HAVE TWO")--THREE-DAY SEMINAR ON FAMILY PLANNING
WAS INAUGURATED IN CALCUTTA ON AUGUST 18 BY PRESIDENT
AHMED. SPEAKERS AT SEMINAR, ORGANIZED BY NEWSPAPERS
AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA AND JUGANTAR, INCLUDED THE PRESI-
DENT, UNION MINISTER OF HEALTH KARAN SINGH, WEST BEN-
GAL GOVERNOR DIAS AND CHIEF MINISTER RAY, CONGRESS
PRESIDENT BAROOAH AND MANY PROMINENT FIGURES FROM
STATES OF EASTERN INDIA.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, HIGHLIGHT OF PRESIDENT'S
SPEECH WAS ARGUMENT THAT THERE WAS NOTHING IN ISLAM THAT
OPPOSED FAMILY PLANNING. CHIEF MINISTER RAY REPORTEDLY
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RAISED SPECTER OF A WEST BENGAL OF 100 MILLION PEOPLE

BY 1990 IF PRESENT GROWTH CONTINUED, BUT SAID GOVERN-
MENT WOULD USE PERSUASION RATHER THAN COMPULSION TO MEET
FAMILY PLANNING TARGETS. IN HIS TALK KARAN SINGH EMPHAS-
IZED IMPORTANCE OF FEMALE EDUCATION IN REDUCE BIRTH
RATE. OTHER SPEAKERS REPORTEDLY SPOKE OF IMPORTANCE
BEING GIVEN TO FAMILY PLANNING ACTIVITIES IN THEIR VAR-
IOUS STATES OR DISTRICTS. KORN

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Disposition Event:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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